

many hearts in future years will linger with a strange remembrance around that memorable morning. Softly beautiful the sun looked down in a thousand beams of gold, upon fields smiling in the green verdure of Spring, while the river rolled along its rugged path, chanting a sublime requiem amid the battle storm.

After we had reached the opposite side of the field, meeting the river as it circles around from below the city, we fell back beneath the shadow of a stone wall that fringed the river. This entire movement was undoubtedly the finest piece of strategy practiced since the opening of the war, and its result was all that the plan designed. Conversing with a prisoner shortly afterward, he stated that he belonged to one of the regiments which followed us up to the right, and that as soon as it was discovered that we had hauled off, and that it was not our intention to give them battle there, they were immediately marched back to the point where Sedgwick had been engaging them, but it was too late,—he had already gained the crest, and the fortifications were ours. But a small force had been left to oppose us in front, the main body of their army having gone to the right towards Chancellorville to meet Hooker, and the feint which was made by our division on the river, drew from the left the forces opposed to Sedgwick, and enabled him to carry the heights.

As soon as it was announced that our forces occupied the earthworks, and that the enemy had retreated, we were marched into the city and back through the heights about two miles, where we remained for an hour, when we again returned to the city, re-crossed the river and took our position on the bluffs, near which we are at present encamped. All were in the best of spirits at the victory we had won; but you all now know the story of how Sedgwick moved on, and the enemy coming into the city the next morning by a flank movement, compelled him to retreat across the river.

We were now set to digging rifle pits commanding the bridges, which the next night were taken up, and in a day

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or two it was announced that Hooker's entire force had re-crossed the river.

The confidence, however, of this army in Gen. Hooker, remains unshaken.

The bold and open manner in which he deals with the forces under his command, has inspired a feeling of reverence, mingled with pride at the confidence which in turn he bestows upon his troops. Not a man but admires the boldness of his movements, and the audacity of his plans, and not a man but would consider it an honor to die in that army which is the "guardian of its own history and its own arms."

The first of May passed off calmer than was expected, a few of the men were inclined to stand out, but the prompt presence of a formidable guard and a few words from the Commanding General, forced them into the sensible conclusion to yield and return to duty. During the late severe trial under fire, every man stood firmly to his post, thus adding new laurels to our proud arms. Respectively &c.,

F. N. C. Co. K.

From the 34th.

OPPOSITE FREDERICKSBURG, VA., }
May 8th, 1863. }

Dear Journal:

For some days I have been trying to get you a line but have found no opportunity until the present moment.

Doubtless you know the particulars and the result of Gen. Hooker's movement. I have nothing to say of it and will confine myself to an account of the doings of the 2d Division of the 2d Corps, which includes the history of the 34th. Said division, for a wonder, was not with the grand army this time and therefore it is a very easy matter to give it a separate history.

After the army had moved to the right we kept a strong force on the river front and it was supposed that we were remaining behind to keep up appearances. On the night of the 2d, however, we were ordered to move to a point opposite Fredericksburg. Arriving there, we lay on our arms while the engineers threw the pontoon bridge across. At sunrise all was ready and we passed over without opposition. We remained in the city but a short time when we were ordered to move on the left of the enemy's works, so as to draw their forces away from the center, while Gen. Sedgwick, who had come up from below, made his attack at that point. No sooner had we commenced to march than the enemy discovered us and opened with his batteries. For full half an hour the shells burst among and the solid shot passed over our ranks, and although many were wounded and killed in the division,

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our Regiment was most fortunate, having but a few wounded, three I believe. There is something surprising in this disproportion of loss in different regiments when, as far as can be seen, the exposure is the same. The Regiment immediately following ours lost full 80 in killed and wounded and in contrast you have our loss of three.

Having succeeded in our object of weakening the enemy's center, we waited while our forces took the Heights. This was most gallantly done between 11 and 12 o'clock. Returning to the city we passed through it and went upon the Heights. The road was strewed with the dead and dying, presenting to us many a sorrowful sight. On our way up we met many prisoners and also several cannon captured by the brave boys of the "Light Brigade." We went out beyond the city some two miles and a half and stopped to dine on the crest of the last ridge or Height. From this the view was most interesting and inspiring. The different Heights crowned by earthworks, the city of Fredericksburg in the valley below, the river and the Falmouth Heights in the distance, all combined to render it a scene never to be forgotten. While here orders came for us to return. We again passed through the city, recrossed the river and went into camp on the opposite side. During the night Gen. Sedgwick's forces passed on to join the main army and the next morning the enemy took possession again in force. Since that time we have lain still, watching the Rebels in the distance and the course of events.

We are all well satisfied with the part we have taken, for we have done, and done well, all that we were asked to do.—When it is remembered that the majority of the Regiment, with much reason, regarded their time as out, its conduct is most praiseworthy, for in the most trying times every man stood up nobly and bravely and faithfully performed his duty.

We know not what awaits us. It may be our fate to again meet the enemy ere we return to our homes, if so—time will tell what we do and how we do it.

But a few weeks now remain to us of service and then we hope to return to enjoy the joys and comforts of home.

Warren Lamphere, Co. K, and Robert Bradbury, Co. G, are the only two wounded from the Herkimer County companies.

For the present,
Yours A. C.

From the 34th.

HEADQUARTERS 34th REG. N. Y. V. }
Army of the Potomac, Camp near }
Falmouth, Va., May 14, 1863. }

Dear Journal:

So peculiar were the circumstances under which my last was written that I did not, rather could not, do justice to the events treated therein. Many little incidents were not noted at all and many things of interest were merely touched upon. It is late to introduce them, but

now, as ever, the old adage holds good, "better late than never."

First and foremost, we would notice the exploits of the "forlorn hope," consisting of twenty-five men and one officer from each Regiment in the Brigade, who volunteered to cross the river and drive the enemy from the town. As soon as the pontoons were laid, they crossed, but met with no opposition until they had passed through the city, when they met the enemy and had a sharp little skirmish. As soon as the "Light Brigade" had possession of the Heights, they were deployed as skirmishers and drove the enemy some two miles and a half, capturing nearly their number in prisoners. The boys say that never before did they know what skedaddling meant. The Rebs. appeared completely panic-stricken, throwing away guns, equipments and everything that impeded their flight. According to rebel accounts, they were a Division strong, and when we consider such a body of men fleeing before our little handful, it is almost a realization of the "One putting a thousand to flight and two ten thousand." Occasionally they would halt, face about, throw out skirmishers and threaten battle, but one volley from our brave lads always set them flying again. Our boys pursued them until they were warned by a slave that they were nearing the main body of the rebel army, when they returned, bringing in their prisoners and their spoils. Had there been a detachment of Cavalry on hand, the whole command could have been taken. We cannot speak too highly of the brave fellows who thus exposed their lives to danger. We would gladly make their names public would room permit. It should also be remembered that many of them had faithfully served out the time of their enlistment and, though, in their opinion, wrongfully held by the government, did not make this an excuse for hanging back.—The officer from our Regiment, was Lieut. McCORMICK, Co. H, who bore himself most nobly and bravely the day through and has honorable mention in the official report of the Colonel.

In the early part of the day, and before we crossed the river, Col. LAFIN was placed in command of the Brigade, which left the Regiment in the hands of Col. BEVERLY. The conduct of all the field and staff officers was faultless. Major SPONABLE's horse was hit slightly, but he escaped unharmed. I cannot but again express my wonder at the small loss.

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Think of walking for half an hour through an open field, at the foot of heights crowned by an enemy's batteries, which he was no ways loth to use or slow in using, and only suffering a loss of four men wounded. We certainly have great cause for thankfulness.

When coming down from the Heights, we met the 121st going up. Great was our delight at this unexpected encounter. Hands were shaken with vigor, congratulations passed, and with a "God bless and keep you," on each side, we parted to meet, some of us—never more. We returned to the city but they pressed on in high spirits elated by our past success and confident of complete victory. About sundown they came unexpectedly upon a strong force of the enemy, and though they fought like heroes, the foe was too strong and they were compelled to fall back, after suffering a loss of 273 men.— This was a sad initiation, but we are happy to state that they were equal to it. Capt. WENDALL, Lieut. DOBBLEDAY, and we regret to say, your correspondent, Lieut. FORD, were among the killed. Capt. ARNOLD, though severely wounded is likely to recover, at least the Doctor holds out encouragement.

The loss of Lieut. FORD will be severely

felt by all who knew him. Little did I think, as we parted on the Heights of Fredricksburg, that in less than six hours he would receive his death wound. But so it was. He was brave to the extreme, rushing recklessly forward encouraging his men and offering a tempting mark to the enemy's sharp shooters. I am told that he lived some hours, though have no particulars. Thus died a talented, noble-hearted and patriotic young man. Would that he could have been spared, for he bid fair to make an honorable, a useful and a distinguished member of society. To talent was united an earnestness and enthusiasm which led him to push forward in whatever he undertook and, though his zeal at times led him too far, yet this was easily overlooked by all who knew him. May the grass grow green, the willows bend low, the breezes blow softly and the birds sing sweetly over the grave where this young hero sleeps! Worthy and noble indeed is he who truly feels that

"'Tis sweet and glorious for one's country to die."

Just now our lines have fallen to us in pleasant places. Never have we had a finer camp. It is on a large plain, covered with a thick growth of clover, near the river and directly opposite the city of Fredricksburg. The remainder of the Brigade is encamped hard by and gives the scene quite a martial appearance. The enemy occupies the city and one of our principal occupations is watching the manœuvres of the grey-backed gentry.— But though they hold the city, they have something else to do besides giving themselves up to mirth and joy. If our loss in

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the late battles was heavy theirs was terrible. But not alone do they mourn over the thousands of brave unknowns, for great must be the general grief over their PAXTON and JACKSON. These were towers of strength to them and the whole structure trembled when they fell. The Southern heart is clothed in sack cloth and ashes, and they glory but little in their Bunker Hill victory. Daily, and many times a day, do we hear the mournful strains of the death march, as they bear some officer to his long home. Were we at peace and beheld like scenes we would say that Fredericksburg was suffering from the plague.

The health of the army, as far as we can judge, is excellent. The soldiers are in good spirits and their confidence in "Old Joe" unshaken. All is well and we are very willing that the Rebs. should crow a little if they can.

The time draws nigh for our return home. We are gratified to learn that our friends are making preparations for our reception.

For the present, as ever,

W.

COMPANY D.—On Wednesday, July 15th the citizens of Champlain gave a public welcome to their returned volunteers of the 34th regiment, consisting of Company D, under command of Capt. SCOTT. A welcoming address was delivered to them by JAMES AVERETT, Esq., and was very neatly responded to by their Captain. An excellent dinner was provided, toasts were offered and responded to, and in the evening a large Festival was given by the ladies. We are glad that their home friends delight to do not less honor to the brave fellows than do the people of the county with whose sons they have been so long intimately associated.

—The citizens of Little Falls have been quite lavish of presents to their volunteers. The members of Gen. Herkimer Fire Co. No. 3, presented a revolver to Lieut. John H. Fralick and to Samuel Shell, two members of that company. George A. Hardin, Esq., presented Lieut. T. O'Brien with a check of \$40 and permission to draw on him for the expenses of his uniform. Major Z. C. Priest retains to Capt. Easterbrook his position in the Freight Office. George Atley, Esq., presented Ensign Barnes a fine double barreled pistol. James Feeter very kindly gave the companies, while there, free use of a rot for drill. Lieut. O'Brien received a revolver from H. V. Zimmerman.

—A Union meeting was held in the town of Mannheim on the 27th ult., at which it was decided to raise the sum of \$5,000 for the support of the families of volunteers.

This part of the country is not quite cleared of guerrilla bands yet, as an occasional murdered Unionist shows too well. A Southerner from one of these bands was captured to-day within two miles of our camp, having strayed away from his companions, and mistaken his way through the woods. He was mounted, and dressed in a dragoon's uniform, much like our dragoons. Our cavalry started immediately in pursuit of the remainder of the band, with what success has not yet transpired.

THORNBURG.

Co. "I," 34th N. Y. S. V.—This company of "two years men," having faithfully served its time in Virginia, arrived here last Friday morning, at Hammondspport, where most of the members belong. About thirty able-bodied members of the Company return from the hard fortunes of war. Soon after they reached here Capt. Gregg's Steamer arrived, (having made an early trip to meet them) bringing the Prattsburg Brass Band; and at 10 o'clock the Company marched from the Parish House, escorted by the Band and a procession composed of several citizens of Hammondspport and village, marshaled by Mr. J. B. Green Prattsburg, a former resident of Penn Yan. The Company embarked on the Steuben, amid cheers from our citizens, which were lustily returned by the soldiers, who also gave two rousing rounds of cheers for General McCLELLAN; thus showing that they are no exception to the prevailing sentiment Army of the Potomac, of enthusiastic admiration of "Little Mac." On their way here they fastened a fine portrait of McClellan upon their company colors, which they bore in procession when they landed at Hammondspport. An immense crowd of gentlemen and ladies greeted them at the steamboat dock; cheers upon cheers rent the air, and a cannon thundered its notes of "welcome home." A large procession was then formed, which marched up to the public square. Over the street were suspended flags; flags decorated the buildings, and a fine arch extended across the way. At the square Dr. Van Keuren, of Hammondspport, delivered an address of welcome to the soldiers. It will be remembered that two years ago he addressed the same company as they were about departing from the depot in this village, for the seat of war. After the address the soldiers were escorted to the "Steuben House," where an elegant dinner was in waiting for them. Altogether, the reception was highly enthusiastic and successful. In one respect it was unlike the ovation here in honor of our Company "I," as nobody made a fool of himself about the McClellan portrait on the flag; and the company carried the same in the procession on the Fourth of July, immediately succeeding, without any loud murmurs from the anti-McClellan radicals. Perhaps this harmony was due to the absence of any arrogant Abolition Congressman. It is fortunate for Hammondspport that she has no such characters in her midst!

THE RETURNING HEROES.—The 34th Regiment is to be mustered out of service at Albany. That part of the Regiment from this County should have a warm welcome, and it is suggested that a preliminary meeting be held for the purpose of making arrangements therefor.—*Democrat.*

By all means let such a reception be given these veterans—as many of them as shall survive the battles of the next thirty days—as will properly speak the feelings of the citizens of this county in respect to this noble regiment. We suggest that an extra train be procured to convey bands of music and as many citizens as will go, to Albany, and that, upon its return to some point in the county, such an ovation be offered the brave fellows, as will be most creditable to us, and most pleasing to them.

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BANKS' DIVISION.—The only interesting news is the following from the Herkimer regiment:

On the evening of the 9th inst., one of the sentinels of the New York 34th discovered a boat containing six men coming into the mouth of the Seneca river. Concealing himself, he allowed the boat to reach the canal aqueduct, when he challenged them. Instead of answering, the leader said to the others, "Boys, by G—d, they've got us! Pull back like h—l!" The sentinel gave the alarm and fired, wounding and killing at least one of the party, but before he could receive assistance or load his piece, they were where he could not get a bearing on them, and the boat and crew consequently escaped.—The spot where this occurred is near the farm of the rebel Cross, and the men in the boat were probably his friends coming to communicate with him or ascertain his fate, as well as to get inside our encampments and report their condition, positions and movements to the rebel leaders. It is stated that Cross himself spent several days visiting our camps, disguised as a teamster, and riding a mule, before being arrested.

NORTHERN AND CENTRAL COUNTIES.

HERKIMER COUNTY.

To the Editor of the Utica Morning Herald:—

COL. LA DEW'S REGIMENT.—Three companies of Col. LaDew's regiment left Little Falls for headquarters in Albany, last Thursday. A very large concourse of people were present to see them off, and they were escorted to the cars by the firemen and Little Falls Band, with becoming ceremony. Great enthusiasm prevailed, and many a hearty farewell and God speed was bestowed.

Monday, with similar demonstrations of popular sentiment, three more companies left Herkimer for Albany.

Liberal provisions have been made by the people of Herkimer and Little Falls, and of the more rural towns, for the families of volunteers. The volunteers of Fairfield were each presented with fine sixteen inch revolvers, and those of Middleville were presented with twenty-five dollars each in cash, and those of Norway and Salisbury were treated with similar generosity. A very affecting scene took place in Norway upon the departure of the Colonel. The good Norwegians treated with a bountiful repast the Colonel and the Norway company, in the Union church from which, after prayer and other solemnities they departed. The most interesting feature of the scene was the following fact.—Col. La Dew informed the people that some of his Norway soldiers were leaving families unprovided for. Whereupon the Smiths, the Hurds, Austins, Rusts, Roots, and other principal citizens guaranteed the ample support of said families.

I would here say that those who may yet be disposed in Herkimer county, to join Col. La Dew's regiment, may be well assured that their families will be well cared for in their absence. Allow me in this note to bespeak the confidence of the public in Col. La Dew, Lieuts. Laffin and Thomson, the contemplated field officers of this regiment. They are men of much energy and force of character, and well qualified for their respective posts.

Other companies are to join them now at Albany. Recruits will be received this week, by reporting themselves to Col. Suiter, or to Major B. Laffin. Let those disposed to enlist hurry forward, and let good citizens urge on their friends without delay.

The County honored with the name, and hallowed by the ashes of the gallant General Herkimer, bids fair to be represented by a regiment of which the State may be proud.

Fairfield, May 8. J. B. VAN PATTEN.

The 34th Regiment.

The following is a list of the commissioned officers of the regiment and of the non-commissioned officers and privates of the Herkimer County companies:

FIELD.

Colonel—Byron Laffin.
Lieutenant Colonel—John Beverly.
Major—Wells Sponable.

STAFF.

Adjutant—John Kirk.
Quartermaster—Nathan Ensterbrooks.
Surgeon—B. F. M. Daley.
Assistant Surgeon—J. Farley Miller.
Chaplain—S. Franklinton choonmaker.

LINE.

Company A—(from West Troy)—Captain, B. H. Warford; First Lieutenant, B. L. Brown; Second Lieutenant, a Oath-out.

Company B—(from Herk. Co.)—Captain, Irving D. Clark; First Lieutenant, Francis N. Usher; Second Lieutenant, Wm. Burns.

Company C—(from Herkimer Co.)—Captain, Thomas Corcoran; First Lieutenant, Wm. Wallace; Second Lieutenant, Simon P. McIntyre.

Company D—(from Champlain)—Captain, John O. Scott; First Lieutenant, vacant; Second Lieutenant, Byren Coats.

Company E—(from Steuben Co.)—Captain, Henry Baldwin; First Lieutenant, Henry W. Sanford; Second Lieutenant, S. Dunn.

Company F—(from Herkimer Co.)—Captain, Charles Riley; First Lieutenant, Wm. Van Valkenburgh; Second Lieutenant, B. F. Minor.

Company G—(from Herkimer Co.)—Captain, Joy P. Johnson; First Lieutenant, John Morey; Second Lieutenant, A. Rounds.

Company H—(from Crown Point)—Captain William S. Walton; First Lieutenant, vacant; Second Lieutenant, Wm. Kirk.

Company I—(from Steuben Co.)—Captain, Eugene B. La Rue; First Lieutenant, A. T. Atwood; Second Lieutenant, Orrin W. Beach.

Company K—(from Herkimer Co.)—Captain, Emerson S. Northup; First Lieutenant, James McCormick; Second Lieutenant, Lewis N. Chapin.

NON-COMMISSIONED AND PRIVATES.

Company B—Sergeants, Michael S. O'Brien, (promoted to to be 2d Lieutenant of Co. H, vice Kirk promoted), Samuel Shell, Warren Van Allen, Joseph F. Terry, Philip Flansburg; Corporals, Edward Ridner, Samuel Tucker, Adolbert Perry, Patrick Donehue; Musician, James P. Hurley; Privates, William Allen, Russell Allen, William H. Ballard, Valentine Bargo, George Cahoon, Jacob Casler, William Casler, George Fye, Jesse P. Fort, Thomas

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Farrall, Jerome Goodbread, Jacob V. Green, William Heutsou, Augustus Earthouse, John Mansfield, Charles C. Miller, John Opple, Jacob C. Perry, Orrin Regan, John Stuart, Marvin P. Starring, Horace H. Smith, Earnest Strossman, Thomas Woods, Robert Whitlock.

Company C—Sergeants, James H. Todd, Simon Loyd, Patrick Coreoran, Lewis Lawton, Amos Morse; Corporals, Richard L. Manning, William Mills, Daniel Embody, Lewis Tarble; Privates, Benjamin F. Bennett, Martin Boh, Ashil Bendett, Orin Comstock, John Coaks, Elisha P. Comstock, Luther Darling, John Dana, Cyrus Eldridge, Oscar E. Hayden, William I. McLeon, James Murry, Henry Mills, Edward D. Mills, George Minor, William Nelson, Charles L. Powers, William Page, John E. Rank, Edwin Snyder, Robert Sanford, Josiah Sherwood, Augustus Thrasher, William H. Townsend, Andrew Warner, William N. Warner, Thomas Whiteleton.

Company K—Sergeants, James M. Talcott, John Johnson, George Simmons, Chas. Lasure, Samuel S. Clark; Corporals, Wm. H. DeForest, John W. Rosa, Henry H. Walton, Frederick Shaver, Jeremiah Casey, Isaac G. Howe, Theodore Smith; Privates, Caser Ambrecht, Leander D. Brown, Jacob Batcher, George E. Corl, George Davis, Mark H. Dry, George L. Durrin, Jas. Daley, Paul Tay, James Faville, Patrick J. Tynn, James N. Green, Cornelius Guild, George Gatman, Michael Governor, Wm. Harper, Alonzo K. Hayes, Martin V. B. Hayes, Charles Habershon, Jacob Kyor, Warren S. Lamphere, Benjamin J. Loucks, John McLaughlin, James McCaffre, John McDougal, William Oathout, Francis M. Piper, Solon Pickert, John Rockwell, John Smith, Henry C. Stowel, Anson Stevens, Rufus Thompson.

We were unable to obtain lists from the other companies from this county.

THE 34TH AT ALBANY.—The regiment is comfortably located in the Albany barracks. They have nobly and with a self-sacrifice unparalleled offered their services to Gov. SARGENT and, if he shall deem it advisable, they will return immediately to the theatre of war. Noble fellows! What can be said in sufficient praise of them?

If they return it will be immediately; if they remain, they will probably not be mustered out in several days yet.

Three of the companies were yesterday called out to suppress a riotous "strike" of some of the laboring men, and we are sorry to add, that two or three of Company B, were arrested in the city yesterday for disorderly conduct in the street. Keep your record clean, boys!

Lieut. Col. BEVERLY, Capt. EASTERBROOKS, Capt. JOHNSON and Lieut. CHAPIN, of the 34th, have been stopping in town for several days.

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